

SUMMARY OF ACTION BY HOUSE POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE COMMITTEE ON FEDERAL SALARY LEGISLATION

October 30, 1963

The House Post Office and Civil Service Committee today agreed upon legislation to continue in effect the principle of "comparability" with private enterprise salary levels by approving extensive adjustments in salaries of postal and other Federal employees, top Federal executives, Members of Congress and legislative employees, and Judges and judicial employees.

The overall cost of the legislation is approximately \$600 million -- \$214 million for postal employees, \$325 million for classified, or white collar, employees, \$37 million for certain Veterans' Administration, Foreign Service, and Agricultural Stabilization employees, \$4.2 million for top executives, \$5.4 million for Members of Congress, \$6 million for Judges, and \$9 million for legislative and judicial employees.

The minimum increase is 3 percent for all postal and classified employees. Approximately 300,000 postal letter carriers and clerks will receive raises of approximately \$450 each, and classified employees in the comparable grade will receive similar increases.

Salaries of top executives will be increased as follows: Cabinet Officers from \$25,000 to \$35,000; immediate sub-cabinet levels, Members of Congress, and District Court Judges from \$22,500 to \$32,500; Under Secretaries of departments and large agency heads from \$21,000 to \$30,500; assistant secretaries and similar levels from \$20,000 to \$29,500; heads of various boards and commissions from a \$19,000 - \$21,000 range to \$28,000; and heads of smaller agencies and bureaus from a \$19,000 - \$20,000 range to \$26,500.

The top classified and postal employee salary rates will be increased from \$20,000 to \$24,500 and from \$19,500 to \$24,445, respectively.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court will be increased from \$35,500 to \$45,500, with Associate Justices receiving \$500 less. Other Judges will receive increases of \$10,000.

The Committee adopted a "ceiling" of \$10,000 on any pay raise provided by the bill, and this ceiling has been applied in the above salary rates for executives, Members of Congress, and Judges. They also adopted an amendment, approved by the Post Office Department, which will permit the Postmaster General to authorize a five day week for many of the 15,000 postmasters in medium sized and small post offices who do not now have this right because of a quirk in a law passed some years ago. Postmasters in most of the remaining 22,000 post offices now can be permitted a five day week, and this amendment provides equality of treatment. The Postmaster General has assured the Committee that no post office will be closed on any weekday, Monday through Saturday, inclusive, by reason of this amendment.

COST COMPARISONS
(in millions of dollars)

| | Admin. Bill <u>H.R. 8716</u> | Comm. Print 2 <u>H.R. 7814</u> | Comm. Print 3 <u>H.R. 7814</u> | Final <u>H.R. 8986</u> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>Federal Employees Salary Act</u> | | | | |
| Classification Act | \$364.0 | \$581.0 | \$455.3 | \$325.0 |
| Postal Field Service | 119.0 | 316.0 | 216.4 | 214.0 |
| VA Medicine & Surgery | 15.0 | 21.0 | 17.8 | 17.0 |
| Foreign Service | 15.0 | 21.5 | 17.9 | 17.1 |
| ASC Employees | -0- | 5.4 | 3.7 | 2.9 |
| <u>Legislative Salary Act</u> | | | | |
| Legislative Officers and Employees | 7.1 | 10.5 | 7.1 | 5.6 |
| Members | 6.7 | 6.7 | 5.4 | 5.4 |
| <u>Executive Salary Act</u> | 6.7 | 6.7 | 5.5 | 4.2 |
| <u>Judicial Salary Act</u> | | | | |
| Judicial Officers and Employees | 3.6 | 5.3 | 4.3 | 3.4 |
| Judges | 7.2 | 7.2 | 6.5 | 6.1 |
| Total Costs | <u>\$544.3</u> | <u>\$981.3</u> | <u>\$739.9</u> | <u>\$600.7</u> |